

From: Jason Baietto
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

As an American and a strong believer in Capitalism and free markets I have been outraged countless times by the ferociously anti-competitive practices of Microsoft. I am deeply saddened that the crystal clear analysis of the U.S. government's investigators has been clouded over this past year by the sheer financial and political influence of this immense mega-corporation.

No settlement that has been discussed thus far has adequately addressed the fundamental issues that continue to allow Microsoft to keep a lock-hold on their current monopoly. The issues are their proprietary networking protocols and their proprietary file formats.

The past cannot be undone, and splitting up Microsoft or forcing them restructure their main product offerings will result in little or no benefit to users and provide little or no assistance to competitors.

However, forcing Microsoft to openly document all of their networking protocols and file formats will give competitors the keys they need to produce software that can properly integrate and compete with the many products offered by Microsoft itself. Only by enabling true competition can the process of recovery from the damage Microsoft has caused begin.

Microsoft must not only be required to document their protocols and file formats, but they must also be tested for adherence to their published standards regularly by a third party. Microsoft must incur severe financial penalties for breaking adherence to any published standard in order to subvert the ruling and continue their aggressive non-competitive practices.

Please do not let the ending to this chapter of American history be written by the corporation that has done the most damage to the system of competition that has fueled the industrial and information revolutions of our great nation.

Sincerely,
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